

**From:** Doug Bostrom  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/9/02 1:57pm  
**Subject:** U.S. vs Microsoft

Greetings,

I'd like to respectfully register my opposition to the Justice Department's proposed settlement of the U.S. vs. Microsoft case now in Judge Kollar-Kotelly's court.

Microsoft has been found guilty of abuse of monopoly privileges, and Microsoft has amply demonstrated in the past that it is organically incapable of properly absorbing and implementing external guidance from judicial authority. The proposed settlement does little to mitigate the former circumstance, and in the latter is insufficiently informed by the prior experience of the Courts and Justice Department in their dealings with Microsoft.

Microsoft will not look upon the settlement as a benchmark upon which to anchor their ethical roots. On the contrary, the settlement terms will be used as the sine qua non of ethics that can be expected of their company as identifiable under the terms of the settlement, which also fails to properly address compliance monitoring. Microsoft has a fundamentally different view of acceptable civic behavior, as evinced yet again by today's (Jan. 9, 2002) disclosure that the corporation appears to have been systematically rigging user preference polls in a major information technology journal (<http://news.zdnet.co.uk/story/0,,t269-s2102244,00.html>).

Having done a superlative job in the trials phase of this enormously expensive proceeding, it is imperative that the Department of Justice bring a firm and historically aware proposal for remedy to the table. The proposed settlement does not fulfill this mandate.

Respectfully yours,

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Douglas K. Bostrom  
CTO  
Amaroq Systems, Inc.  
[www.amaroqsystems.com](http://www.amaroqsystems.com)